

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 RSR-01 /156 W

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R 161238Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2884

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TS, TU

SUBJECT: VISIT OF TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER HALUK BAYULKEN

1. TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER HALUK BAYULKEN VISITED TUNISIA AUG 7-11 ON INVITATION OF FONMIN MASMOUDI. BAYULKEN WAS RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA AND ALSO MET WITH PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MOKADDEM, MINISTER OF NATIONAL ECONOMY AYARI AND MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION GUIGA. TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS SIGNED FRIENDSHIP TREATY AUG 8. IN ADDITION TO BILATERAL RELATIONS, (ACCORDING TO JOINT COMMUNIQUE AND PRESS REPORTS) THREE MAIN AREAS WERE DISCUSSED: CSCE, MIDDLE EAST AND CYPRUS.

2. REGARDING THE CSCE, TUNISIA THANKED TURKEY FOR ITS SUPPORT OF THE TUNISIAN AND LAGERIAN ATTEMPT TO PARTICIPATE IN FIRST PHASE OF CONFERENCE, AND BAYULKEN PROMISED CONTINUED SUPPORT IN PHASE TWO.

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3. APPARENTLY NOTHING NEW DEVELOPED REGARDING MIDDLE EAST.

TWO SIDES NOTED THEIR IDENTITY OF VIEWS, AND TUNISIANS EXPLAINED RECENT BOURGUIBA INITIATIVE.

4. REGARDING CYPRUS QUESTION, TWO COUNTRIES CONDEMNED USE OF VIOLENCE BY ALL PARTIES CONCERNED. BAYULKEN SAID IN A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT TURKEY "OPTED FOR NEGOTIATION AND HELP OF UN TO DEFEND ITS CAUSE AND THAT IN SPITE OF PROVOCATIONS TURKEY REFUSED TO INTERVENE IN AFFAIRS OF GREECE EVEN THOUGH TURKEY COULD HAVE PROFITED FROM THAT COUNTRY'S DIFFICULTIES". JOINT COMMUNIQUE (CARRIED FBIS 122145Z) EXPRESSED HOPE THAT "JUST AND PERMANENT SOLUTION TO CYPRUS PROBLEM COULD BE FOUND IN ORDER TO SECURE TO BOTH GREEK AND TURKISH COMMUNITIES THEIR LEGITIMATE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS".

5. ON AUG 11, SECRETARY GENERAL OF FOREIGN MINISTRY MESTIRI TOLD DCM TALKS WENT VERY WELL AND RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES EXCELLENT. TWO COUNTRIES WILL ATTEMPT TO INCREASE ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL CONTACTS. IN THIS CONNECTION MIXED ECONOMIC COMMISSION WILL MEET SOON TO DISCUSS WAYS TO INCREASE COOPERATION, AND TURKISH CHAIR WILL BE ESTABLISHED AT UNIVERSITY OF TUNIS. MESTIRI SAID TUNISIA MUST TREAD VERY CAREFULLY REGARDING CYPRUS PROBLEM BECAUSE OF ITS DESIRE TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH GREECE AND GREEK CYPRIOTS AS WELL AS TURKEY. MESTIRI OBSERVED, HOWEVER, THAT BY AND LARGE, GOT POSITION CLOSE TO THAT OF TURKEY IN PRESSING FOR CONTINUED INDEPENDENCE OF ISLAND WITH BOTH COMMUNITIES ALLOWED TO WORK OUT THEIR COMMON FATE UNENCUMBERED BY OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE. IN LATTER REGARD, MESTIRI MENTIONED THAT DESPITE GREEK AND GREEK CYPRIOT OBJECTIONS, GOT HAS AGREED TO RECEIVE INFORMALLY TURKISH CYPRIOT MISSION IN NEAR FUTURE, BUT "ONLY TO LISTEN". (PRESS REPORTS THAT FONMIN MASMOUDI RECEIVED DELEGATION ON AUGUST 15.) SEELYE

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